

## AMENDED NEW PCT CLAIMS

1. (original) A device for the flow-through treatment of textile materials, formed fabrics or paper by means of a gaseous or liquid treatment medium in a perforated cylinder (5) that is covered with a wire gauze (9), wherein straight sheet metal strips (10), the width of which extends in the radial direction, are situated between the bottoms (11, 12) of the cylinder (5), wherein connecting elements (20) arranged between the sheet metal strips (10) are uniformly distributed over the length of the cylinder (5) and rigidly connected to the adjacent sheet metal strips (10) on both sides, and wherein the connecting elements contain more than one bore for screws (29, 29'; 30, 30') or similar fastening elements in order to connect two adjacent sheet metal strips (10) or connecting elements (20), characterized in that the radially inner and/or outer flanks of the connecting means (20") are realized in an arrow-shaped fashion and this connecting element is also realized with the same width between the screw holes as at the height of the bores (34, 35).

2. (original) The device according to Claim 1, characterized in that the connecting element (20") is provided with a hollow chamber (36) that extends parallel to the bores (34, 35) at the height between the bores (34, 35).

3. (original) The device according to Claim 2, characterized in that the connecting element (20") is provided with a wall (37, 38) that is only sufficient for the stability of the connecting element (20") at the height of the hollow chamber.

4. (original) The device according to Claim 3, characterized in that the walls (37, 38) provided to both sides of the hollow chamber (36) extend parallel to one another.


5. (currently amended) The device according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the connecting element merely consists of a sheet metal that is bent in the shape of an arrow and encompasses the two screws (29, 30) or their parts in covering fashion.

Atty's 23563

Pat. App. Not known - US phase of PCT/EP2004/052842

This preliminary amendment is submitted to provide the cross reference of the present US phase of PCT/EP2004/052842 to the international application according to Rule 78, and to eliminate the multiple claim dependency.

Respectfully submitted,  
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